

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~ firmware updating method, for use in ~~a computer system~~ an information processing apparatus having a remote management subsystem and an information processing apparatus provided with ~~a storage storing a firmware and~~ a communications device for communicating ~~via a network~~ with said ~~a remote management subsystem~~ server, for ~~maintaining~~ updating the firmware for said information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:

A ~~instructing from said remote management subsystem to said information processing apparatus to set said communications device as a boot device to obtain a program when said information processing apparatus is booted;~~

setting said communications device as ~~the boot~~ a boot device ~~by said information processing apparatus according to said instruction~~ an instruction from said remote management server;

~~instructing a system reset from said remote management subsystem to said information processing apparatus;~~

resetting said information processing apparatus in system reset according to ~~the system~~ a system reset instruction from said remote management server under an environment of an operating system of said information processing system

operating; and

~~starting the execution of a maintenance program by acquiring said maintenance program from said remote management subsystem by~~ booting said information processing apparatus with said by said communications device used as the boot device to boot the system, thereby to update said firmware stored in said storage via said network;

setting said storage as a boot device thereby to control "off" a power supply of said information processing apparatus in response to a request from said remote management server;

controlling "on" said power supply in response to another request from said remote management server; and

reading and executing said firmware updated in said storage of said information processing apparatus.

2. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~ firmware updating method according to claim 1, wherein said a maintenance program is acquired from said remote management subsystem in said execution starting step and is a program for updating firmware possessed by said information processing apparatus.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~ firmware updating method according

to claim 2, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring information about the firmware from said information processing apparatus, which has the information about the firmware, by said remote management subsystem; and

judging a program to be sent to said information processing apparatus according to the information about the firmware.

5. (currently amended) A maintenance-firmware updating method according to claim 1, wherein said execution starting step includes a step to check that ~~the~~ an obtained maintenance program is an appropriate program.

6. (currently amended) A firmware updating maintenance method according to claim 5, wherein said checking step includes a step of obtaining a certification file corresponding to said a maintenance program from said remote management subsystem and a step of inspecting said maintenance program according to said certification file.


7. (currently amended) A firmware updating maintenance method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring identification information, which is used to obtain said a maintenance program by said information processing apparatus, by said remote management subsystem;

sending a request to obtain a pseudo maintenance program by said identification information; and

checking the presence or not of a reply to the request to obtain the pseudo maintenance program.

8. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~firmware updating method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

 ~~registering previously~~previously registering identification information of an information processing apparatus subjected to maintenance into said remote management subsystem;

receiving input of identification information for specifying said information processing apparatus prior to the instruction to set said boot device; and

judging whether the received identification information is included in the registered identification information.

9. (currently amended) A ~~maintenance~~firmware updating method according to claim 1, wherein the setting of said boot device and said reset are performed by a management agent which operates on said information processing apparatus.

10. (currently amended) A firmware updating~~maintenance~~ method according to claim 9, wherein said boot device is set by said management agent which calls an

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A I/O routine of the firmware in an environment where an operating system of said information processing apparatus is operating.

11. (new) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a communications device which is to be connected with a server;

a storage device for storing therein a firmware;

a setting component setting one of said communications device and said storage as a boot device in response to a request from said server;

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A a power controller controlled by a first power supply which is separate from a second power supply of said information processing apparatus; and

A a system reset component for resetting said information processing apparatus in system reset according to a request from said remote management server under an environment of an operating system of said information processing apparatus operating;

wherein said power controller controls "off" and "on" said information processing apparatus according to a request from said server;


wherein said communications device obtains a program from said server after resetting said information processing apparatus; and

wherein said information processing apparatus updates said firmware by use of said program, stores said firmware updated by said information processing apparatus in said storage, sets said storage as a boot device, and controls "on" said

power controller according to a request from said server to execute said firmware by use of said storage.

12. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring information about the firmware from said information processing apparatus, which has the information about the firmware, by said remote management subsystem; and

 judging a program to be sent to said information processing apparatus according to the information about the firmware.

13. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 11, wherein said execution starting step includes a step to check that an obtained maintenance program is an appropriate program.

14. (new) A system comprising:

an information processing apparatus; and

a server;

wherein said information processing apparatus comprises:

a communications device which is to be connected with said server via a network;

a storage for storing therein a firmware;

a system reset component for resetting said information processing apparatus in system reset according to a request from said server under an environment of an operating system of said information processing apparatus operating;

a setting component setting one of said communications device and said storage as a boot device in response to a request from said server; and

a power controller controlled by a first power supply which is separate from a second power supply of said information processing apparatus;

wherein said communications device obtains a program from said server after resetting said information processing apparatus;

wherein said information processing apparatus updates said firmware by use of said program, stores said firmware updated by said information processing apparatus in said storage, sets said storage as a boot device, and controls "on" said power controller according to a request from said server to execute said firmware updated by said information processing apparatus by use of said storage;

wherein said server comprises:

a boot controller for setting one of said communications device and said storage as a boot device, instructing to reset said information processing apparatus, and

a remote controller instructing said power controller to control "off" and "on" said information processing apparatus.

15. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 14, further

comprising the steps of:

acquiring information about the firmware from said information processing apparatus, which has the information about the firmware, by said remote management subsystem; and

judging a program to be sent to said information processing apparatus according to the information about the firmware.

16. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

acquiring identification information, which is used to obtain a maintenance program by said information processing apparatus, by said remote management subsystem;

sending a request to obtain a pseudo maintenance program by said identification information; and

checking the presence or not of a reply to the request to obtain the pseudo maintenance program.

17. (new) A firmware updating method according to claim 14, further comprising the steps of:

previously registering identification information of an information processing apparatus subjected to maintenance into said remote management subsystem;

receiving input of identification information for specifying said information

processing apparatus prior to the instruction to set said boot device; and

judging whether the received identification information is included in the
registered identification information.
